## U.S. Consulate General Marseille

## **Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Demonstrations**

## November 14, 2014

The U.S. Consulate General in Marseille informs U.S. citizens that information regarding non-violent demonstrations will be posted on the "<u>Demonstrations</u>" page on the Consulate General's website. Effective immediately, the Consulate General will not send a separate message to registrants for those protests. If a demonstration targets U.S. citizens or interests, or is likely to turn violent, the Consulate General will disseminate a separate security message to registered citizens.

The Consulate General reminds U.S. citizens that demonstrations and large events intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational. Avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations. Large public gatherings can affect all major incoming arteries to the city in which they occur. Demonstrations in one city have the potential to lead to additional public rallies or demonstrations in other locations around the city and country.

We strongly encourage U.S. citizens to maintain a high level of vigilance, be aware of local events, and take the appropriate steps to bolster their personal security. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. U.S. citizens are therefore urged to avoid demonstrations, and to exercise caution if within the vicinity of any demonstrations.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling or residing in France enroll in the Department of State's <u>Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)</u> at <u>www.Travel.state.gov</u> STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the <u>State Department's website</u>, where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the <u>Country Specific Information for France</u>. For additional information, refer to the <u>"Traveler's Checklist"</u> on the State Department's website.

Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on <a href="Twitter">Twitter</a> and <a href="Facebook">Facebook</a> to have travel information at your fingertips.

The U.S. Consulate General in Marseille is located at Place Varian Fry, 13286 Marseille Cedex 6 and is open from 9:00am to 5:00pm on weekdays, 01-43-12-47-54. If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance, outside of business hours, you may reach the Embassy Duty Officer via 01-43-12-22-22.